

NSC BRIEFING

TOP

SECRET

10 JANUARY 1957

ISRAEL AND ITS NEIGHBORS

- I. Israeli troops will be back to edges of Sinai by weekend.
 - A. Israel's problem: obey UN resolution and withdraw completely?
Or stand pat until political objectives obtained? Cabinet now meeting on question.
 - B. Israeli objectives:
 1. Buffer zone.
 2. Free navigation Aqaba and Suez
 3. No Egyptian return to Gaza.
- II. Gulf of Aqaba primary issue at moment.
 - A. Frigates sent to Eilat "naval base".
 - B. French-Israeli pipeline plans envision Suez by-pass.
- III. Arab counter pressures are striking at West, rather than Israel.
 - A. Nasr threatening to bar French, UK use of Suez unless Israelis pull back to '49 lines.
 1. Eden resignation is shot-in-arm for Nasr.
 2. He could hold up canal clearance work.
 - B. Syrians similarly threatening keep pipeline closed unless Israeli pull-out is total.

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